

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 FEA-01 /125 W
-----252000Z 039157 /73

R 251307Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8135

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2902

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PLOS, KU

SUBJECT: LOS: MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

REF: (A) STATE 116631, (B) 76 KUWAIT 3915

1. EMBASSY LOS OFFICER PRESENTED ARGUMENTS ON MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OUTLINED STATE REFTEL TO KUWAITI MFA LOS ACTION OFFICER ALI AL-SAMMAK ON MAY 25. (AL-SAMMAK'S DEPARTURE TO JOIN KUWAITI LOS DELEGATION HAD BEEN DELAYED SEVERAL WEEKS, REPORTEDLY DUE TO POSTPONEMENT OF COMMITTEE II AND II WORK.) EMBOFF EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RIDDING MARINE MARINE RESEARCH OF CURRENT IMPEDIMENTS, POINTING OUT THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY CONSENT REGIME, AND LEFT COPY OF TALKING POINTS.

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2. AL-SAMMAK REPLIED THAT KUWAIT WAS SOLIDLY WITH THE "GROUP OF 77 CONSENSUS" FAVORING A CONSENT REGIME, ADDING THAT KUWAITI NATIONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS WERE THE LEADING MOTIVATION FOR THIS POSITION. HE PROMISED TO BRING USG POSITION ON THIS ISSUE TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS, BUT SAID THAT MOST WERE ALREADY IN NEW YORK.

3. COMMENT: THERE MAY BE ACTUAL HIGH-LEVEL CONCERN WITHIN THE GOK ON SECURITY THREATS POSED BY FOREIGN MARINE RESEARCH VESSELS OR EQUIPMENT--THE CABINET APPARENTLY PASSES ON ALL REQUESTS FOR MARINE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION. THERE MAY ALSO BE CONCERN ABOUT OIL EXPLORATION IN THE GULF, THE MARINE EXPLORATORY AND PRODUCTION TERRITORIES OF WHICH ARE NOT ALL DEFINITELY DEMARCATED. IN ADDITION, HOWEVER, KUWAIT WOULD NORMALLY SUPPORT THE MAJORITY OPINION WITHIN THE DEVELOPING WORLD, UNLESS KUWAITI NATIONAL INTEREST WERE OPPOSED, ON SUCH ISSUES. THE KUWAITI POSITION ON THE RESEARCH ISSUE SEEMS TO HAVE HARDENED AGAINST US SINCE LAST YEAR (REF.B). HOWEVER, AS NOTED IN RECENT BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH OF KUWAITI UN PERMREP (LOS DELEGATION HEAD) ABDALLAH BISHARA, IT IS LIKELY THAT HE WILL HAVE A GOOD DEAL OF LEEWAY IN DEVELOPING THE KUWAIT POSITION ON LOS ISSUES, AT LEAST THESE LIKE MARINE RESEARCH WHICH ARE OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE TO KUWAIT.

SUTHERLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, TERRITORIAL WATERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT02902
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770187-0339
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770520/aaaaarck.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 286e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 116631, 76 KUWAIT 3915
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2380165
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOS: MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
TAGS: PLOS, KU, LOS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/286e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009